

# Expression Web Training

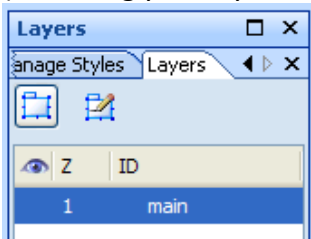
This tutorial will walk you through creating a simple *centered* website using a **master** template

## Starting Out

- Open Expression Web
- **File → New → Web**
- Select “**Empty Web Site**”
- Specify a location on your hard drive to save the web site (not on a network drive)
- Click **OK**
- Click the “New Document” button on the toolbar to start a new page
- **File → Save**
- Change “Save as Type” to **Master Page (\*.master)**
- Type in a name for the file and click the **Save** button
- You will be prompted that “The Master Page does not have any content regions defined. Do you want to save anyway?” Click **Yes**

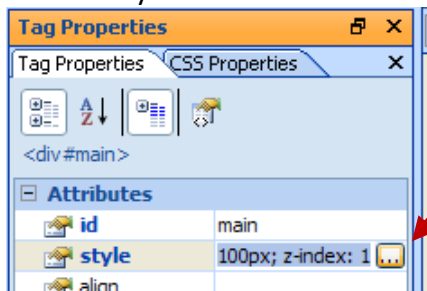
## Creating the “main” layer

- Drag in a “Layer” from the **toolbox**
- In the **Layers** task pane, double-click on “layer1” and rename it “main”  
(renaming your layers as you put them in is vital to organization!)



*If you do not see your “Layers” task pane,  
click on **Task Panes** → **Layers***

- Locate the **Tag Properties** task pane click on the **Tag Properties** tab
- Locate the **style** row and click on the “ellipsis” [...] at the end of it to launch the “Modify Style” window for that layer



*If this window does not appear,  
exit Expression and re-launch*

- Select the **Position** category:
  - Position = relative
  - Width = 800
  - Height = 400 (this is temporary...you’ll need to go back and remove this)

- Select the **Box** category:
  - Uncheck “same for all” next to *margin*:
  - Right = auto
  - Left = auto (this step centers the layer on the screen)
- Click **OK**

### Creating the “header” layer

- Drag a “Layer” from the **toolbox** inside the “main” layer
- In the **Layers** task pane, double-click on “layer1” and rename it “header”
- Launch the “Modify Style” window from the **Tag Properties** tab
- Select the **Position** category:
  - Position = relative
  - Width = 800
  - Height = 125 (The graphic I created to go here is 800X125)
- Click **OK**

### Creating the “horizontal navigation bar” layer

- Drag a “Layer” from the **toolbox** inside the “main” layer (NOT inside the “header” layer!)
- In the **Layers** task pane, double-click on “layer1” and rename it “nav\_bar”
- Launch the “Modify Style” window from the **Tag Properties** tab
- Select the **Position** category:
  - Position = relative
  - Width = 800
  - Height = 20
- Click **OK**

### Creating the “Vertical Navigation” layer

- Drag a “Layer” from the **toolbox** inside the “main” layer
- In the **Layers** task pane, double-click on “layer1” and rename it “vert\_nav”
- Launch the “Modify Style” window from the **Tag Properties** tab
- Select the **Position** category:
  - Position = relative
  - Width = 170 (change width to meet your needs)
  - Height = <make it blank> *[remove the default 100px]*
- Select the **Layout** category:
  - Float = left (this step left aligns this layer within the main layer)
- Click **OK**

## Creating the “body” layer

- Drag a “Layer” from the **toolbox** inside the “main” layer
- In the **Layers** task pane, double-click on “layer1” and rename it “body”
- Launch the “Modify Style” window from the **Tag Properties** tab
- Select the **Position** category:
  - Position = relative
  - Width = 630 (630 + 170 [vert\_nav] = 800 [main])
  - Height = <make it blank> [remove the default 100px]
- Select the **Layout** category:
  - Float = right (this step right aligns this layer within the main layer)
- Click **OK**


## Creating the “footer” layer

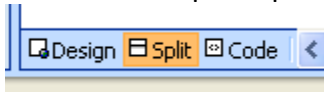
- Drag a “Layer” from the **toolbox** inside the “main” layer
- In the **Layers** task pane, double-click on “layer1” and rename it “footer”
- Launch the “Modify Style” window from the **Tag Properties** tab
- Select the **Position** category:
  - Position = relative
  - Width = 800
  - Height = 20
- Select the **Layout** category:
  - Clear = both (this step clears the left and right floats from previous layers)
- Click **OK**

## Remove the height setting on the “main” layer

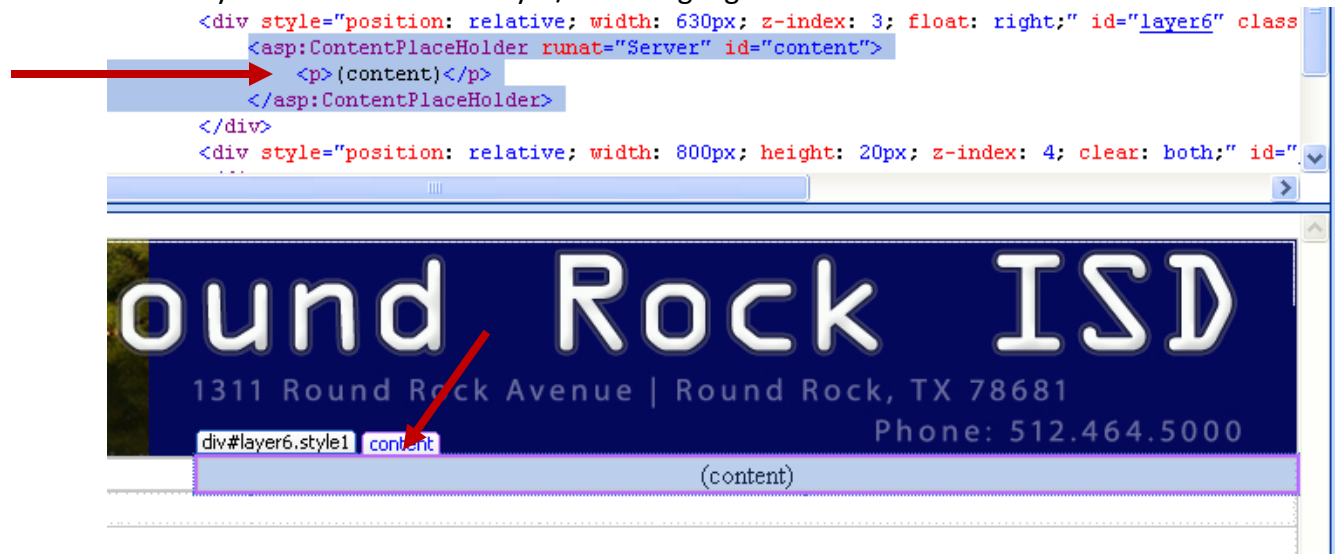
- In the **Layers** task pane select the “main” layer
- Launch the “Modify Style” window from the **Tag Properties** tab
- Under the **Position** category remove the 400 and leave it blank and click **OK**

## Defining a “Content Region” (Master pages must have a content region!)

- Click in the “body” layer and click the center-align button on the toolbar 
- Right-Click in the “body” layer and select “Manage Microsoft ASP.NET Content Regions...”
- Type “content” into the *Region Name* field and then click **Add** and **Close**
- Optional: If you want to create margins on your content area, you will need to make the width of the content box shorter than the width body layer (which is 630 in this example):
  - Click on the “Split” option at the bottom of your screen to see your page and the code above

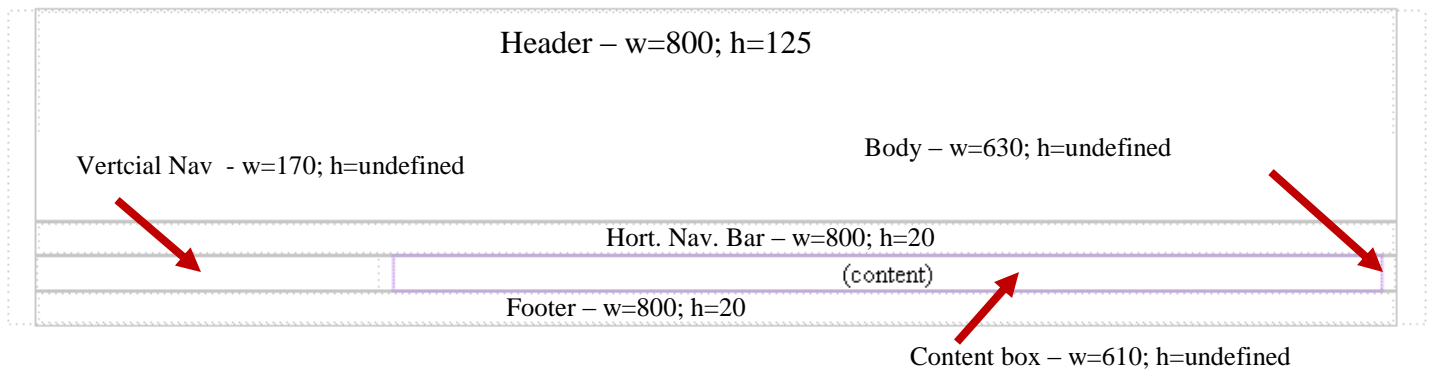


- Click on your “content” box’s layer/tab to highlight it and its code



- In code, change `<p>(content)</p>` to `<p style="width:610">(content)</p>`

[This step gives you 10px on either side of your content box within the body layer]



### Changing the Page properties

- Right-click anywhere on the page and select “Page Properties”
- **General** Tab
  - Title: type in your school’s name (this will appear at the top of the browser on every page)
  - Fill in Keywords and Page Description (for search engines)
- **Formatting** Tab
  - Set background color (or background picture)
  - Set Hyperlink color

### Changing a layers background color

- In the **Layers** task pane select the layer you want to modify
- Launch the “Modify Style” window from the **Tag Properties** tab
- Under the **Background** category, use the drop-down menu to select a “background-color:”

## Inserting a graphic

- **File → Import → File**
- **Add File...**
- Browse for graphic, select and click **Open**
- **OK**
- Drag image from "Folder List" into layer

## \*\*\*\*Creating the default homepage

- **File → New → Create from Master Page...**
- Click the **Browse...** button
- Select the \*.master file that you created and then click **Open**
- Click **OK** (you now have a blank template called "Untitled\_1.aspx")
- **File → Save**
- Type in file name "**default.aspx**" and click **Save**
  - *All pages created from the master page must be ".aspx" files and not ".htm"*
  - *All pages created from the master page must be saved in the root directory (not in folders)*
- Click on the ">" button to the right of the **(Content)** box and select **Create Custom Content**
  - *The content box is now unlocked*
  - *Notice that you cannot edit any other part of the screen except for the content box*
- Add content, save, and preview!

